

RED BLOOD CELLS LOADED WITH S-NITROSTHIOL
AND USES THEREFOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Red blood cells can be loaded with low molecular weight nitrosylating agents,
5 such as S-nitrosothiols, to act as a delivery system for NO⁺ groups to tissues. Loaded
red blood cells can be used in methods of therapy for conditions which are characterized
by abnormal O₂ metabolism of tissues, oxygen-related toxicity, abnormal vascular tone,
abnormal red blood cell adhesion, or abnormal O₂ delivery by red blood cells. Such
treatment of red blood cells can be extended to *in vivo* therapies, with the object to
10 achieve an increase in the ratio of red blood cell S-nitrosothiol to hemoglobin.

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